

## **Ella Nordby Naves 1998**

Given by Arnold Sakshaug

Ella was elected to the office of Financial Secretary in our lodge in 1973 and still holds that office today. At that time the membership records needed a complete review, and she managed to get them in order very quickly. The lodge was paying for members who had not paid their dues to us. She contacted these members and found out if they planned to continue and thereby reconciled the records. She continued to contact members whose dues had not been paid and because of those contacts retained many members in our lodge who might have dropped their membership.



She has been active in our lodge's cultural programs. She sings in the lodge Chorus, dances with the folk dancers, is a member of the Hardanger group, the book group and the knitters. She helps with the Lutefisk Suppers each year, and most recently has worked as chairman of the waiters and waitresses. She helps in cleaning the highway on the Adopt a Highway Project, and with the planting in the Sons of Norway Park. Wherever there is a Sons of Norway activity going on, you will find Ella there helping in any way she can.

On the District level she served for four years as District Treasurer. When she started out in this job the district had \$79,000. When her term ended the balance had grown to \$139,000. This was done through wise investing of funds, by moving them from low interest C.Ds to high interest money market funds.

Ella has attended every District and International Convention since 1967 with the exception of the one in Norway. She generally served as a delegate, but attended the conventions even if she was not elected as a delegate.

While she was worked for First National Bank, she met many people of Norwegian decent and often talked them into joining Sverdrup Lodge. After retiring from First National Bank she worked briefly for First Federal Savings and Loan and again signed up many new members.

Ella is a world traveler. She traveled to Norway four times visiting family members. She also made a trip around the world with Carrol Juven leading the travel group. She and LeRoy have made several interesting trips as well; one was to the area where LeRoy was shot down during the war.

I think it is fitting that a tree planted in Ella's honor on this her 25<sup>th</sup> year as serving the lodge as Financial Secretary. I feel that if anyone should have the title of Ms. Sons of Norway Sverdrup 107, which title should go to no one other than Ella Nordby Naves.